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LETTER DATED 5 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of an aide-mémoire which was handed to me yesterday in a meeting which I held with representatives of the Permanent Missions of Argentina, Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

The aide-mémoire underlines the concern of the Governments of those countries, all of which contribute troops to United Nations peace-keeping operations, at the delays in reimbursement of the expenses which they incur. As you are aware, I drew attention to this situation in the letters which I recently addressed to the members of the Security Council on the financial crisis confronting the Organization.

I would be grateful if you would share the contents of the aide-mémoire with the other members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

Annex

AIDE-MEMOIRE

The Permanent Missions of Argentina, Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Uruguay and Zimbabwe

state that:

1. They are aware of the increasing responsibilities of the United Nations in the area of peace-keeping activities, which has necessitated increased contribution of resources by Member States in terms of personnel and equipment to the peace-keeping operations, and firmly believe that a solid financial basis is essential to the peace-keeping efforts of the Organization and therefore, share the concern expressed by the Secretary-General over the present financial situation. They are convinced that the situation needs to be improved urgently so that the United Nations can continue to play its central role in the maintenance of international peace and security.

2. They are mindful that the maintenance of international peace and security is a collective responsibility, hence are contributing troops and equipment to the peace-keeping efforts of the Organization. This entails a considerable financial burden. They believe that timely reimbursement for troops costs and compensations are essential for sustained participation by Member States, particularly the developing countries.

3. They believe that delays in the reimbursement of troop costs and compensations to the contributing countries could make difficult the participation of many Member States in United Nations peace-keeping operations, in particular that of the developing countries.

4. They are convinced that the time has come to find the solutions to this problem. In this regard, they are prepared to cooperative constructively in all the appropriate fora to devise ways and means to achieve this goal.

4 August 1993

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